

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2483

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2004, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 1, 2004

Mr. SPECTER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2004, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Compensa-  
5       tion Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2004”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN RATES OF DISABILITY COMPENSA-**  
2 **TION AND DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY**  
3 **COMPENSATION.**

4 (a) RATE ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans  
5 Affairs shall, effective on December 1, 2004, increase the  
6 dollar amounts in effect for the payment of disability com-  
7 pensation and dependency and indemnity compensation by  
8 the Secretary, as specified in subsection (b).

9 (b) AMOUNTS TO BE INCREASED.—The dollar  
10 amounts to be increased pursuant to subsection (a) are  
11 the following:

12 (1) COMPENSATION.—Each of the dollar  
13 amounts in effect under section 1114 of title 38,  
14 United States Code.

15 (2) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR DEPEND-  
16 ENTS.—Each of the dollar amounts in effect under  
17 sections 1115(1) of such title.

18 (3) CLOTHING ALLOWANCE.—The dollar  
19 amount in effect under section 1162 of such title.

20 (4) NEW DIC RATES.—The dollar amounts in  
21 effect under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section  
22 1311(a) of such title.

23 (5) OLD DIC RATES.—Each of the dollar  
24 amounts in effect under section 1311(a)(3) of such  
25 title.

1           (6) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES  
2       WITH MINOR CHILDREN.—The dollar amount in ef-  
3       fect under section 1311(b) of such title.

4           (7) ADDITIONAL DIC FOR DISABILITY.—The  
5       dollar amounts in effect under sections 1311(c) and  
6       1311(d) of such title.

7           (8) DIC FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN.—The  
8       dollar amounts in effect under sections 1313(a) and  
9       1314 of such title.

10       (c) DETERMINATION OF INCREASE.—(1) The in-  
11       crease under subsection (a) shall be made in the dollar  
12       amounts specified in subsection (b) as in effect on Novem-  
13       ber 30, 2004.

14       (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), each such  
15       amount shall be increased by the same percentage as the  
16       percentage by which benefit amounts payable under title  
17       II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) are  
18       increased effective December 1, 2004, as a result of a de-  
19       termination under section 215(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
20       415(i)).

21       (3) Each dollar amount increased pursuant to para-  
22       graph (2) shall, if not a whole dollar amount, be rounded  
23       down to the next lower whole dollar amount.

24       (d) SPECIAL RULE.—The Secretary may adjust ad-  
25       ministratively, consistent with the increases made under

1 subsection (a), the rates of disability compensation pay-  
2 able to persons within the purview of section 10 of Public  
3 Law 85–857 (72 Stat. 1263) who are not in receipt of  
4 compensation payable pursuant to chapter 11 of title 38,  
5 United States Code.

6 **SEC. 3. PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTED RATES.**

7       At the same time as the matters specified in section  
8 215(i)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
9 415(i)(2)(D)) are required to be published by reason of  
10 a determination made under section 215(i) of such Act  
11 during fiscal year 2005, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
12 shall publish in the Federal Register the amounts specified  
13 in subsection (b) of section 2, as increased pursuant to  
14 that section.

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